

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

35 USC § 103

Claims 93, 96-101, 103-104 were rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being obvious over Chan, and claims 94 and 105 were rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being obvious over Chan in view of Eppstein. The applicant disagrees for various reasons. Nevertheless, the **applicant amended the rejected claims to incorporate elements of corresponding allowable claims** to advance prosecution.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 86-92 were deemed allowable by the Office. The applicant agrees. Furthermore, claims 95 and 102 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten.

The applicant amended claim 93 to include all elements of allowable claim 102 (and canceled claim 102). As claims 93 and 94-100 now include elements of allowable claim 102, claims 93 and 94-100 should now be in condition for allowance. The applicant amended claim 101 to include all elements of allowable claim 102 (and canceled claim 102). As claims 101 and 103-105 are now depending on allowable amended claim 101, claims 101 and 103-105 should now be in condition for allowance.

The applicant believes that the present claim amendments are sufficient to overcome the Examiner's concerns and believes that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. In case of remaining outstanding issues, the undersigned would appreciate a phone call to clarify same.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTAN & TUCKER

By 

Martin Fessenmaier, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 46,697

Tel.: (714) 641-5100